

Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 15 November 2005



Daily Highlights

- The Washington Post reports new and safer smallpox vaccine technologies are emerging that offer an opportunity to devise a strategy against a potential bioterror attack. (See item 21)
- Network World reports that at an Office Document Solutions conference, presenters said makers of printers, copiers, scanners, and other such networked devices should think about security threats against these systems. (See item 30)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: Energy; Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials; Defense Industrial Base

Service Industries: Banking and Finance; Transportation and Border Security; Postal and Shipping

Sustenance and Health: Agriculture; Food; Water; Public Health

Federal and State: Government; Emergency Services

IT and Cyber: Information Technology and Telecommunications; Internet Alert Dashboard

Other: Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons: General: DHS Daily Report Contact

Information

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

 $Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE \ [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector \ (ES-ISAC) - \\ \underline{http://www.esisac.com}]$

1. November 14, Reuters — OPEC keeps output steady for now. The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is waiting for cold winter weather to set in before it charts oil supply policy for early next year, but for now sees no need to cut output, the producer group's president, Sheikh Ahmad al—Fahd al—Sabah, said on Monday, November 14. U.S. Secretary of Energy Sam Bodman, on a tour of Middle East producers, called on OPEC at the weekend to keep pumping at its highest rate in 25 years to keep markets amply supplied. "I would hope that the (OPEC) ministers would see fit to continue supplying the market," Bodman said. Washington's own calculations show the OPEC, which controls half the world's oil exports, would have no need to curb supplies. "I think our view is the market needs to continue

to be adequately supplied," said Guy Caruso of the Energy Information Administration. "There is a lot of uncertainty about demand and therefore it's best to let the market determine how much it wants to take up," said Caruso.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/11/14/AR2005111400219.html

2. November 14, New York Times — Suspects may have planned attack on Australian nuclear reactor. The defendants charged with terrorist—related offenses in Australia last week had been stockpiling large quantities of chemicals and other materials used to make powerful explosives, and may have been planning an attack on a nuclear reactor, according to a police statement that was made public on Monday, November 14. During the search of one of the men's homes, the police found a computer memory stick that had instructions in Arabic for the manufacture of a highly sensitive explosive, triacetone triperoxide, or TATP, according to the statement, which is a summary of the state's case. The police statement lists only one possible target: the nuclear power plant at Lucas Heights, which is about 20 miles south of the Sydney central business district. Three of the defendants were seen near the plant last December, and were stopped by the police, according to the police statement. They had a trail bike and claimed they were in the area to ride it, the statement says. Interviewed separately by the police at the time, the three men gave conflicting statements.

Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2005/11/14/international/asia/13cnd-a ustralia.html

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

3. November 13, Associated Press — Carbon monoxide leak in Montana sickens dozens. A carbon monoxide leak at a resort sickened dozens of people attending a banquet in Red Lodge, MT, celebrating the 230th anniversary of the Marine Corps, sending 42 of them to hospitals, authorities said Sunday, November 13. No one suffered major illness, said Red Lodge Rural Fire Department Chief Tom Kuntz. About 200 people were attending the banquet, according to Kuntz. Authorities found a "fairly major" carbon monoxide leak in the basement boilers at the Rock Creek Resort, in south—central Montana, Kuntz said. Forty—two people were taken to a local hospital, and 14 of them were flown to a hospital in Billings, about 60 miles to the east, for further evaluation, Kuntz said.

Source: http://ap.lancasteronline.com/4/monoxide poisoning

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.

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Banking and Finance Sector

4.

November 14, Computerworld — Banks urged to automate online transaction controls. As banks move to install stronger end—user authentication technologies to meet new federal guidelines for online security, they shouldn't overlook the importance of providing transaction—level controls as well, according to some IT managers and analysts. Existing security threats, such as Trojans and e—mail phishing attacks, already can bypass some of the strongest authentication technologies available, noted Jonathan Penn, an analyst at Forrester Research Inc. Therefore, what is also needed is more transaction and account monitoring, as well as behavior modeling, to help detect and prevent fraud, Penn said. Automated tools are available to help users do the monitoring and modeling work, but their use remains relatively low in the retail banking industry, Penn added.

Source: http://www.computerworld.com/securitytopics/security/story/0_,10801,106143,00.html

5. November 14, Associated Press — Oversimplifying identity theft may create problems for consumers and industry. As a result identity theft being too broadly defined and often misunderstood, some experts say, lawmakers and companies might be misdirecting their anti-fraud energies, and overly fearful consumers could be unnecessarily avoiding doing business online. To Julia Cheney, an industry specialist at the Payment Cards Center in the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, oversimplifying identity theft has big consequences. For one thing, she believes it confuses people trying to determine their level of risk. That could lead many consumers to unnecessarily shy away from Internet commerce, or drive them into the arms of costly protection vendors instead of making regular scans of their credit reports — a process that is now free. Cheney also believes the muddled definitions make it harder for financial firms to assess their countermeasures and trickier for law enforcement to monitor trends. It also could throw lawmakers off course as they consider solutions. For example, several identity theft measures pending in Congress are focused on curtailing the use and transfer of personal data, however, companies that scan for the manipulations employed by synthetic scammers have said some proposals actually might inhibit their work. Source: http://www.banktech.com/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=17360242 3

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

6. November 14, Transportation Security Administration — Twelve explosives detection canine teams join TSA. Twelve new explosives detection canine teams joined the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) National Explosives Detection Canine Team Program following graduation on Thursday, November 10, at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX. The canine teams are assigned to transportation facilities in Atlanta, New York, Salt Lake City, Reno, NV, Little Rock, AR, and Tamuning, Guam. The teams from Reno, Little Rock, and Tamuning are new additions to the national program. Canine teams combine excellent mobility with reliable detection rates. Their uses include searching areas in response to bomb threats and investigating unattended packages in airports and other transportation terminals, vehicles, luggage, cargo and other areas, as well as serving as a proven deterrent to would–be terrorists or criminals. The TSA Explosives Detection Canine Team Program is a cooperative partnership with participating transportation systems.

Source: http://www.tsa.gov/public/display?theme=44&content=090005198 0184b89

7. November 14, Department of Transportation — Railroad switch safety demonstration **project begins testing.** A federally funded test of new technology designed to prevent train accidents in dark, or non-signaled, rail territory by electronically monitoring the position of railroad switches is underway, announced Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta. If successful, the new technology will help reduce accidents like the recent collision involving a hazardous materials release in Graniteville, SC, Mineta added. The test involves the installation of wireless communication devices at 49 switches along a 174-mile section of non-signaled BNSF Railway track between Tulsa and Avard, OK. Train dispatchers at an operations center in Fort Worth, TX, will monitor the devices to identify when hand-operated switches are set in the wrong position. If a switch is misaligned, the dispatcher directs a train to stop until railroad crews in the field confirm it is safe to proceed. Approximately 40 percent of all mainline track is located in dark territory and carries only about 20 percent of all rail traffic. Thus far in 2005, there have been nine accidents involving misaligned switches in dark territory resulting in ten fatalities and over 600 injuries. The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is contributing \$527,308 to the test. BNSF Railway is providing an additional \$472,680 for the cost of equipment.

Source: http://www.dot.gov/affairs/fra2905.htm

8. November 14, San Mateo County Times (CA) — California leaders discuss "intelligent" **transportation.** Getting the latest transportation technology from test track to California roadway is a widely shared goal and how to do it was the subject of a hearing last week led by state Senator Tom Torlakson, D-Martinez. The chairman of the California Senate transportation committee, as he pushes a \$10 billion infrastructure bond, wants to know how to modernize the state's freeways with life-saving car-to-car and car-to-road communications and how to get cars on the road that can predict and avoid collisions. Over and over, industry leaders, researchers and European transportation officials told the committee that neither technology nor cost is the big hurdle. California lawmakers must answer a series of key questions before "intelligent transportation" can meet these challenges. Among those raised by last Wednesday's November 9, hearing: Should the state invest hundreds of millions of dollars to build the wireless communication backbone that makes it all possible? Or is there a way for private enterprise to make money building it? By one estimate, it would take \$100 million to wire—up the Bay Area. The European Union has set a goal of cutting its 50,000 annual auto deaths in half. Its E-Safety initiative has launched a system in which cars automatically communicate with satellites after they crash and call an ambulance.

Source: http://www.insidebayarea.com/sanmateocountytimes/localnews/c i 3214307

9. October 14, Government Accountability Office — GAO-06-154: National Airspace System: Transformation will Require Cultural Change, Balanced Funding Priorities, and Use of All Available Management Tools (Report). The National Airspace System (NAS) is a complex network of airports, aircraft, air traffic control (ATC) facilities, employees, and pilots. The aviation industry, which depends on the NAS, contributes about nine percent to the gross domestic product. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), funded through a tax-financed trust fund and General Fund appropriations, is pursuing a multibillion—dollar modernization program. Persistent cost, schedule, and/or performance shortfalls have kept this program on the Government Accountability Office (GAO)'s list of high—risk programs since 1995. GAO was asked to review the status of NAS modernization. This report addresses NAS status by identifying the challenges that FAA faces in managing (1) infrastructure, (2) human capital, and

(3) financial resources. To facilitate NAS modernization, GAO recommends that FAA (1) estimate controller hiring and training costs, (2) establish a long term focus on developing a more results—oriented culture, (3) balance immediate and long—term investment needs, and (4) pursue options for improved system management and development. In commenting on a draft of this report, agency officials described ongoing actions consistent with the third and fourth recommendations, but did not comment on the others. GAO believes that all four recommendations are needed.

Highlights: http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d06154high.pdf
Source: http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-06-154

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Postal and Shipping Sector

10. November 13, USA TODAY — Postal Service working on problems in New Orleans. Almost no part of daily life in New Orleans is anything close to normal more than two months after Katrina's onslaught. Postal officials acknowledge that the mail service continues to face significant challenges. Mail delivery has been restored to all areas of the city that have been repopulated, says U.S. Postal Service spokesperson David Lewin. "The presence of letter carriers back on the street has been a real boost for a lot of people," he says. Nevertheless, Lewin says the postal system in the city has not completely recovered. For example, eight of News Orleans' 15 post offices are open. The city's main facility remains closed, which means all mail is sorted in Baton Rouge, Dallas, Houston and Beaumont, TX. Lewin says mail service is close to normal in neighborhoods where most residents have returned and for evacuees who have filed change—of—address forms. He says mail service should speed up by early next month, when most of the city's mail will again be handled in New Orleans.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2005-11-13-new-orleans-mail-x.htm

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Agriculture Sector

11. November 14, Associated Press — Wyoming confirms chronic wasting disease in deer killed by hunter. The Wyoming Department of Game and Fish plans to kill up to 50 deer in the Thermopolis area, northwest of Casper, after a deer killed by a hunter tested positive for CWD. The sick deer was killed by a hunter on November 5 along the Big Horn River, near the Wedding of the Waters. Game and Fish officers plan to kill up to 50 deer in a five—mile radius of where the sick deer was found to determine the extent of the disease in the deer population. If more sick deer are found, killing and testing of the deer will continue until the agency determines the periphery of the disease outbreak. Sampling also will take place in adjacent hunt areas. CWD information: http://www.cwd-info.org/

Source: http://rockymountainnews.com/drmn/local/article/0,1299,DRMN 15 4236897,00.html

12. November 14, Stop Soybean Rust News — Five South Carolina counties found to have rust in multiple fields and plots. Five new counties are positive for Asian soybean rust in South

Carolina, according to state officials. They are Clarendon, Colleton, Greenville, Lee, and Marlboro counties, bringing the state total for positive rust counties to 23. John Mueller, Extension soybean pathologist, said, they had added Lee County to their list of counties with rust detections based on positive finds in one research plot and two commercial fields. Marion Barnes, Colleton County ag agent, submitted seven samples from Colleton County. Six of the seven samples contained rust. Three of the samples had very light levels. The other samples had moderate levels of rust. Russell Duncan, Clarendon County ag agent, submitted three samples from commercial fields in Clarendon County. Rust was found in two of the samples. Both had very low levels of rust on less than 10 percent of the leaves. Vic Bethea, Marlboro County ag agent submitted five samples from commercial fields, of which four had light-to-moderate levels of rust.

Source: http://www.stopsovbeanrust.com/viewStory.asp?StoryID=632

13. November 14, Associated Press — Poultry producers protecting flocks. The sign outside Rick Klaphake's Sauk Centre, MN, turkey farm reads: "Absolutely no trespassing — disease control." Poultry growers such as Klaphake, as well as government and industry officials, say they're confident the U.S. poultry industry is safe from dangerous strains of bird flu, such as H5N1, that have ravaged poultry in Asia and spread to parts of Europe. "We've taken steps to protect ourselves by confining the birds," Klaphake said. And across the country, top chicken producers follow similar strategies for keeping their flocks free of disease. On Klaphake's farm, turkeys have little human contact. Few visitors are allowed. Farm employees shower and change clothes before entering the barns, and wear disposable booties to avoid tracking in germs. Automated systems feed and water the turkeys. While the sides of the barns open to allow fresh air in, screens keep out migratory birds that could carry disease. Source: http://www.argusleader.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/200511

14/BUSINESS/511140326/1003

- 14. November 14, Pennsylvania Ag Connection Scientists to present talk on foreign animal diseases. Local residents and the Pennsylvania State University community can get a rare glimpse inside the nation's first line of defense against foreign animal diseases when a team of scientists from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Plum Island Animal Disease Center present a free public lecture at on November 18 on the University Park campus. Located off the northeastern tip of New York's Long Island, the Plum Island laboratory houses research, diagnostic and training programs carried out by scientists and veterinarians with USDA's Agricultural Research Service and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. The lab helps to protect the nation's animal industries and exports from catastrophic economic losses caused by foreign animal disease agents accidentally or deliberately introduced into the country. Source: http://www.pennsylvaniaagconnection.com/story-state.cfm?Id=6.03&vr=2005
- 15. November 14, Associated Press Citrus canker spreads in Polk County. Florida state agriculture officials said about 252,000 citrus trees will have to be destroyed in Polk County because of the spread of canker. Florida Department of Agriculture spokesperson Denise Feiber said that equals about 2,100 acres of groves — and almost half of those acres have already been destroyed. Polk County is a key citrus-producing county where growers fear that canker can put them out of business. The disease has been a threat to the state's nine billion dollar citrus industry for years. It causes ugly lesions on fruit but does not kill the tree. Source: http://www.wpbfnews.com/news/5319685/detail.html

16. November 13, Stop Soybean Rust News — Carteret and Catawba counties in North

Carolina positive for soybean rust. North Carolina reports soybean rust in Catawba County in the west–central part of the state, only three counties away from the northeast corner of Tennessee. North Carolina also reported Sunday, November 13, that the rust previously thought to have been found in Beaufort County was actually in Carteret County next door. There are now 15 counties positive for rust in the state. "Soybean rust will not impact North Carolina soybean production in the 2005 growing season, because over 80 percent of the crop is mature. The impact on the remaining soybean will be minimal because of the late entry of this pathogen into the state. Soybean rust does not infect seed and will not contribute to seed rots," said Steve Koenning, with North Carolina State University.

Source: http://www.stopsoybeanrust.com/viewStory.asp?StoryID=631

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Food Sector

17. November 14, United Press International — South Korea to lift ban on U.S. beef. South Korea may lift its two—year ban on U.S. beef imports at the end of this month, the Ministry of Agriculture said. A ministry official said the government would convene a group of officials, local veterinarians, health experts, and consumers on November 29 to decide whether to resume U.S. beef imports, the Korea Times reported Monday, November 14. The government has maintained that it cannot resume imports unless the safety of the beef is confirmed. The official said the government had no exclusive right to determine the lifting of the ban, but that the decision would be made in consultation with related agencies and other interest groups. South Korea banned beef imports from the U.S. in December 2003 after one cow in Washington state tested positive for mad cow disease.

Source: http://www.upi.com/NewsTrack/view.php?StoryID=20051114-040827-7453r

18. November 13, Food Safety and Inspection Service — Chicken products recalled. Case Farms, a Winesburg, OH, establishment, is voluntarily recalling approximately 389,000 pounds of various chicken products that may contain the pesticide Ronnel, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced Sunday, November 13. The products were produced on August 29 and August 30, 2005. The products were sent to distribution, processing and retail establishments in California, Indiana, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. The problem was discovered by FSIS after reviewing establishment testing data. Excessive levels of this pesticide can be dangerous to children, the elderly, women in late stages of pregnancy, and individuals with weakened immune systems.

Source: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News & Events/Recall 050 2005 relea se/index.asp

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Water Sector

19. *November 14, Reuters* — **German police search lake after poison find.** German authorities were searching Western Europe's second largest lake with underwater cameras on Monday,

November 14, after discovering two sunken canisters of herbicide apparently planted to poison water supplies. The containers were found Wednesday, November 9, three weeks after the local water supply company received an anonymous letter threatening to contaminate Lake Constance. The company, Bodensee–Wasserversorgung, supplies water to some four million people in the German state of Baden–Wuerttemberg. It said tests had shown barely detectable levels of herbicide in the water and there was no risk to the public. A police spokesperson in the lakeside town of Friedrichshafen said the authorities had yet to find more herbicide containers. He said the motive behind the incident was unclear, but police were not treating it as terrorist–related. They were in touch with colleagues in Switzerland and Austria, which also border the 41–mile–long Lake Constance.

Source: http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L14321174.htm

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Public Health Sector

20. November 15, Reuters — China has its own version of bird flu drug. China has developed what it calls the equivalent of the anti-bird flu drug Tamiflu in preparation for a feared pandemic if the virus begins spreading among humans. Zhong Nanshan, director of the Guangzhou Institute of Respiratory Diseases, was quoted in the Information Times newspaper as saying the drug would be effective in treating the virus. "New progress will be achieved in the near future," the paper's Saturday, November 12 edition reported Zhong as saying. The Information Times report did not say when the drug might be available or say how it compared with the antiviral Tamiflu, made by Roche Holding AG. In the absence of a vaccine for bird flu, the World Health Organization recommends that governments stockpile Tamiflu, which does not cure the disease but can reduce its severity and might slow the spread of a pandemic. Roche said last week it had stopped selling Tamiflu in China and was instead sending all supplies to the health ministry. The move followed similar suspensions of supplies to pharmacies in the United States, Canada and Hong Kong to head off hoarding by consumers worried about the spread of bird flu as the world heads into the influenza season.

Source: http://today.reuters.com/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=healthNews&storyID=2005-11-13T074814Z 01 SCH905570 RTRUKOC 0 US-BIRD FLU-CHINA.xml&archived=False

21. November 14, Washington Post — Safer smallpox vaccines in works; U.S. preparing for potential bioterror attack. New vaccine technologies are emerging that offer a fresh chance to devise a strategy against smallpox. Two companies are reporting rapid progress in developing a new vaccine designed to be safer than the standard one, and a third company, with no government support, is developing yet another new vaccine. Acambis PLC and Bavarian Nordic A/S have received federal grants to develop modified vaccinia Ankara (MVA). Their vaccines have undergone extensive tests, though full side effects are not known yet. VaxGen Inc. is developing a Japanese vaccine that reproduces in the body, and thus elicits strong immunity with one dose, but appears less likely to cause life—threatening brain infections in children than the standard vaccine. The company has already completed some human research. "We are generating the data to show the product is intrinsically safe," said Lance K. Gordon, president and chief executive of VaxGen.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/11

- 22. November 14, Government Technology Hawaii consortium awarded grant for Pacific **emergency preparedness.** A consortium of universities and other organizations has been awarded a grant for emergency preparedness training for the states of Hawaii and California as well as the U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islands (USAPI). The grant, approved for approximately \$4.14 million over three years, will foster the development of the Pacific Emergency Management, Preparedness and Response Information Network and Training Systems (Pacific EMPRINTS). The U.S. Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) awarded the grant. The purpose of the grant is to fund the development of a health care workforce with knowledge, skills, abilities, and core competencies to recognize indications of terrorist attack; meet acute care needs of patients; participate in coordinated, multidisciplinary response to health events; and to rapidly and effectively alert the public health system and local communities of such an event. As part of Pacific EMPRINTS, geographic information system (GIS) mapping and spatial analysis training will be provided to health professionals involved in management, preparedness, and response to terrorist events and other emergencies. GIS training will include the standardized use of GIS for data collection, management, and distribution in the field and in forward command centers. Source: http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=97249
- 23. November 13, Cleveland Plain Dealer (OH) Lab at Kent State University to offer training on bioterrorism agents. A Northeast Ohio laboratory will train technicians to identify potential biological weapons such as anthrax and plague. The facility at Kent State University (KSU) will not house any deadly pathogens. Instead, trainees will practice with genetic material from surrogates, less worrisome cousins of these biological agents. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is backing the project with a \$700,000 grant. The KSU laboratory will use DNA detection and real—time microbe counting to allow students primarily technicians from diagnostic laboratories to detect organisms in less than an hour. The Ohio Department of Health said the KSU lab would improve the state's response to bioterrorism and provide clinical microbiologists with well—equipped training in their backyard.

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Source: $\underline{$http://www.cleveland.com/news/plaindealer/index.ssf?/base/news/1131878154200640.xml\&coll=2 \end{tabular}$

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Government Sector

Nothing to report.

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Emergency Services Sector

24. November 14, Atlanta Journal—Constitution — Georgia transit authority conducts terrorism exercise to test response. As part of an elaborate terrorism response training drill in Atlanta, GA, on Sunday, November 13, a decommissioned Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) bus was blown up to test Atlanta's readiness in the event of an actual

attack. "Everything went according to plan," said MARTA spokesperson Joselyn Baker. For the exercise, a "terrorist" on a motorcycle tossed a bomb at the stopped MARTA bus. Baker said a production crew actually staged and controlled the explosion. Emergency workers, including firefighters and police officers, then scrambled to rescue passengers, control the fire and search the station with dogs for secondary bombs. Baker said it will take a few days before officials evaluate and review all of the tapes to determine how successful the exercise was. Source: http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/metro/atlanta/1105/14metmar ta.html

25. November 13, Citizens — Pennsylvania county tests emergency response to mustard gas release. A mock disaster drill was conducted Saturday, November 12, by the Luzerne County, PA, Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and simulated a mass casualty emergency at the Luzerne County Community College (LCCC). Numerous fire departments and emergency responders throughout the region participated in the six—hour drill that simulated an explosion and the release of the chemical agent Lucite, or mustard gas. Authorities took great effort to make sure every aspect of the drill was realistic, including live "victims" who personnel had to treat while wearing special protective suits. "We're working to enhance our ability to work together and practice for a potential terrorism incident," said Steve Bekanich, operations and training officer for the county EMA. LCCC director of safety and security William Barrett said the drill was an opportunity for emergency responders and the college to test their emergency plans.

Source: http://www.citizensvoice.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=15567870&BRD=2259&PAG=461&dept_id=455154&rfi=6

26. November 11, National Journal's Technology Daily — National Institute of Standards and Technology works on standards for emergency personnel. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is working to serve emergency responders through a project to create "intelligent" building systems with self—organizing wireless networks. The institute is planning to release a final report on the first phase of the project by the end of the year. The research aims to suggest ways to standardize how first responders communicate and collect data so their information can be shared, updated and acted upon quickly. "The technology is not the issue; it is the standards that are the issue," said David Holmberg, a mechanical engineer at NIST. The goal of the project is to create standards language that could be understood by all official groups that respond to emergencies. The wireless network would provide real—time data from sensors and video cameras. Another NIST initiative is a personal alert safety system. It focuses on the performance of devices that could be attached to firefighters and sound an alarm when no movement occurs after a certain time. In addition, NIST is working on testing and standards efforts for urban search—and—rescue robots, as well as a device that could predict the structural collapse of buildings.

Source: http://www.govexec.com/story page.cfm?articleid=32803&dcn=to daysnews

27. November 11, Daily Astorian (OR) — Oregon county opens command center as part of emergency response drill. The Clatsop County, OR, Sheriff's Office, began operating a joint incident command center last Wednesday, November 9, through Monday, November 14, as part of an emergency response drill involving 23 agencies, including military and some from across state lines, to test the region's response plan. "We're using this opportunity to train for possible disasters that could affect our area in the future," Sheriff Tom Bergin said. The Sheriff's Office was transformed into a NASA-like command center crammed with people, computer

equipment and display boards. Participants included the U.S. Air Force, National Guard from Oregon and Washington, U.S. Coast Guard, ham radio operators, transportation providers, ambulance and North Coast local police, fire and emergency response agencies. "We're using our new emergency operations procedures that we are drafting. We're testing to see how our plan works in a real event," said Gene Strong, the county's Emergency Services manager. This is just one in a series of regional training emergency exercises on the agenda. A tsunami drill next spring will involve Canada as well as all the Pacific coastal states.

Source: http://www.dailyastorian.info/main.asp?SectionID=2&SubSectio nID=395&ArticleID=29068&TM=64485.68

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

- 28. November 14, Government Technology Federal Trade Commission shuts down spyware **operation.** An operation that uses the lure of free lyric files, browser upgrades, and ring tones to download spyware and adware on consumers' computers has been ordered to halt its illegal downloads by a U.S. District Court at the request of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). The court also halted the deceptive downloads of an affiliate who helped spread the malicious software by offering blogs free background music. The music code downloaded by the blogs was bundled with a program that flashed warnings to consumers about the security of their computer systems. Consumers who opted to upgrade by clicking, downloaded the spyware onto their computers. The FTC complaint alleges that the Websites of the defendants and their affiliates cause "installation boxes" to pop up on consumers' computer screens. In one variation of the scheme, the installation boxes offer a variety of "freeware," including music files, cell phone ring tones, photographs, wallpaper, and song lyrics. In another, the boxes warn that consumers' Internet browsers are defective, and claim to offer free browser upgrades or security patches. Consumers who download the supposed freeware or security upgrades do not receive what they are promised; instead, their computers are infected with spyware.
 - Source: http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=97252
- **29.** *November 11, TechWeb News* **Sony suspends CD copy protection.** On Friday, November 10, Sony BMG Music Entertainment announced that it would stop producing CDs with its XCP copy-protection technology. The move came just a day after nearly every major security firm put out alerts that a Trojan horse was using the XCP (eXtended Copy Protection) software to hide malicious files. A wave of lawsuits has been filed or are about to be filed against Sony for installing the hacker-style "rootkit" on users' PCs without their permission. On Thursday, November 9, Sony BMG posted a news release on its Website that linked to a patch download and the site where consumers are to request help with uninstalling the copy-protection software.

Source: http://www.techweb.com/wire/security/173602071;jsessionid=BH YE2POHHTY0IQSNDBOCKH0CJUMEKJVN

30. November 10, Network World — Any networked office gear can be vulnerable to online attackers. On Tuesday, November 9, at a two-day Office Document Solutions conference in Boston, MA, a number of presenters implored makers of printers, copiers, scanners, and other such devices to start thinking about security threats to office gear beyond just computers.

According to Jim Joyce, senior vice president for office services at Xerox Global Services, "Network–connected output devices are becoming an absolute primary target of people, foreign and domestic, who are penetrating networks...The reason for that is many of them are large devices with large disk drives, with a fair amount of memory and are network connected and are not secure." Joyce said that Xerox has poured some \$20 million in recent years into technologies to better manage office and document systems and is putting a particular emphasis on security. He noted that some machines, such as multifunction devices, might have several operating systems in them that could provide security holes if not protected.

Source: http://www.pcworld.com/news/article/0,aid,123483,00.asp

Internet Alert Dashboard

DHS/US-CERT Watch Synopsis

Over the preceding 24 hours, there has been no cyber activity which constitutes an unusual and significant threat to Homeland Security, National Security, the Internet, or the Nation's critical infrastructures.

US–CERT Operations Center Synopsis: US–CERT is aware of publicly available proof of concept code for an Oracle worm. Currently, US–CERT cannot confirm if this code works. We are working with Oracle to determine the threat posed by this code.

Although there is limited information concerning this potential threat, US–CERT strongly encourages Oracle system administrators to implement the following workarounds:

- * Change default user credentials for Oracle installations
- * Change the default port for the TNS listener
- * Restrict Oracle network access to trusted hosts only
- * Revoke CREATE DATABASE LINK privileges from the CONNECT role

US-CERT will continue to investigate the issue and provide updates as they become available.

For more information please review URL:

http://www.us-cert.gov/current/current_activity.htmloraclewm

Current Port Attacks

135 (epmap), 445 (microsoft-ds), 1026 (win-rpc), 1027 (icq), 1025
(win-rpc), 139 (netbios-ssn), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 1029 (), 1030
(), 1028 () Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html: Internet Storm Center

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: https://www.it-isac.org/.

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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

Nothing to report.

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General Sector

Nothing to report.

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